

From the Editors

An unfortunate incident at the premises of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria has reminded us of the fragility of the resources we too often take for granted. A fire in the kitchen on 17 June caused extensive damage to the adjacent hall space, and had a diminishing impact on rooms further away. One of those rooms houses the Library and Archives of the FNCV, a place of particular importance in the continuing production of the Club's journal. No recent issue of this journal has been compiled without resort, usually on a number of occasions, to information held in the Library.

But for the good fortune of the fire being noticed and reported at an early stage, those invaluable sources of information would have been lost. The closeness with which we came to losing it all has been a salutary experience, and underlines how impermanent such records are. This is perhaps less so for those records that have been published, which points to the great value of journals as long-standing as this one. One of the most important roles fulfilled by *The Victorian Naturalist* is in giving a wide range of records a more lasting form.

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